

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice or disclaimer.

**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing Amendment prior to examination is respectfully requested. After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 9-20 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-8 have been canceled. Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a favorable Office Action on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is courteously invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

May 6, 2002

By

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